UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.3/48/L.7/Rev.1
1 November 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 109

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

Afghanistan, Belarus, Belgium, China, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Indonesia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: revised draft resolution

Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: a continuing world programme of action

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/52 and 37/53 of 3 December 1982, 46/96 of 16 December 1991 and 47/88 of 16 December 1992, and taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 1992/276 of 30 July 1992 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/48 of 3 March 1992, 1/

Noting the importance of developing and carrying out concrete long-term strategies for the full implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons 2/ beyond the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, with the aim of achieving a society for all by the year 2000,

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1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2 (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

2/ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

Welcoming the unreserved reaffirmation in the Vienna Declaration on Human Rights 3/ of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming that the efforts of both the developing and the developed countries are indispensable to mobilize the world's attention and resources to address the problems of persons with disabilities,

Aware of the major obstacles to the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, foremost among these being an inadequate allocation of resources,

1. Reaffirms the continuing validity and value of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, which provides a firm and innovative framework for disability-related issues;

2. Reiterates the responsibility of Governments for removing or facilitating the removal of barriers and obstacles to the full integration of persons with disabilities into society, and supports their efforts in developing national policies to reach specific objectives;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to give higher priority and visibility to disability issues within the work programme of the United Nations system by:

(a) Integrating disability issues into the policies, programmes and projects of the specialized agencies on a broader scale and with higher priority, and asking all the specialized agencies to report on their engagement in the disability field;

(b) Asking the United Nations Development Programme to review how a disability component can be incorporated in all its reconstruction programmes on a continuing basis;

(c) Urging the finalization of the ongoing work on the creation of a disability index based on the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities; 4/

(d) Publishing a manual on the integration of disability issues into national planning and development projects;

(e) Continuing the work of collecting statistical data about disability matters and finalizing the development of a global disability indicator;

3/ A/CONF.157/23.

4/ See Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/19, annex.

(f) Pursuing his efforts toward the establishment of a panel of persons with wide experience in the field of disability, including persons with disabilities, and with due regard to equitable geographical representation, to advise him on disability matters;

(g) Urging Governments to integrate, where possible, disability components in technical assistance and technical cooperation programmes, including the exchange of experience in the disability field under the auspices of relevant United Nations specialized agencies;

4. Encourages the consideration during major forthcoming events, including the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, the 1994 International Year of the Family, the 1995 World Conference on Women and the 1995 World Summit on Social Development, of disability issues relevant to the subject-matter of those events;

5. Recommends that regional commissions, including the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and other relevant regional organizations, be fully utilized to explore the best ways and means to improve the specific situation of persons with disabilities in each region;

6. Invites Member countries and the private sector, including relevant non-governmental organizations, to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability;

7. Invites Member countries and other donors to pay close attention to the increasing number of persons with disabilities as a consequence of poverty and disease, wars and civil strife and demographic and environmental factors, including natural disasters and catastrophic accidents;

8. Commends the launching of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, and the adoption of the proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality of People with Disabilities in the Asian and Pacific region 5/ by the intergovernmental meeting to launch the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002, convened by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at Beijing from 1 to 5 December 1992;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on relevant developments concerning the present resolution and in the context of his report on the development of a plan of action to implement the long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons.

5/ See E/ESCAP/902, annex I.